

## Message Text

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ACTION L-02

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SCA-01 SCS-03 FCSC-01 H-02

JUSE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 SP-02 /031 W

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R 201559Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1861

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

C O N F I D E N T I A L NICOSIA 2002

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CPRS, PFOR, CY, TU, US

SUBJECT: PROTECTION OF PROPERTY IN NORTHERN CYPRUS

1. SUMMARY. TURKS CHANGE RULES ON PROTECTION OF PROPERTY. OFFICIALS INDICATE THERE MAY BE SOME LOOSENING OF RESTIRCTIONS, BUT THIS AS YET NOT APPARENT. QUID PRO QUO FOR THIS WOULD BE FORMAL RECOGNITION OF TFSC BY AMCIT PROPERTY OWNERS. GIDANCE REQUESTED. END SUMMARY.

2. EMBASSY RECEIVED FOLLOWING LETTER DATED JUNE 18, FROM TFSC MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (PARA LETTERING ADDED

FOR CONVENIENCE) QUOTE : (A) DEAR SIRs, I HAVE BEEN DIRECTED TO REFER TO APPLICATIONS SUBMITTED THROUGH YOUR EMBASSY IN RESPECT OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES CLAIMED TO BELONG TO AMERICAN CITIZENS WITHIN THE TURKISH

FEDERATED STATE OF CYPRUS AND TO INFORM YOU THAT EACH CASE IS BEING CONSIDERED INDIVIDUALLY, AND THAT ALL APPLICATIONS SUBMITTED SO FAR MAY BE CONSIDERED AS HAVING BEEN FORMALLY RECEIVED BY US WITHIN THE ADMIS-SIBLE PERIOD (I.E. BEFORE 30 JUNE, 1975) SPECIFIED IN OUR NOTE OF 25 JANUARY, 1975. (B) I MUST REMIND YOU HOWEVER, THAT APPLICATIONS PERTAINING TO IMMOVABLE PRO-CONFIDENTIAL

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PERTY CAN ONLY BE REFERRED TO THE APPROPRIATE GOVERNMENT

AUTHORITIES FOR COMPLETION OF THE NECESSARY FORMALITIES (I.E. VERIFICATION OF OWNERSHIP OR NOTING OF CONTRACTUAL OR MORTGAGE INTERESTS) UPON RECEIPT OF A SEARCH FEE OF 5 (FIVE CYPRUS POUNDS) IN RESPECT OF EACH INDIVIDUAL PROPERTY. (C) WOULD YOU PLEASE, THEREFORE, ADVISE US WHETHER THE FEES IN QUESTION ARE TO BE REMITTED THROUGH AND BY YOU OR WHETHER WE SHOULD WRITE TO THE INDIVIDUAL APPLICANTS THEMSELVES AND ASK THEM TO REMIT THE NECESSARY FEES. IN THE LATTER CASE YOU WOULD HAVE TO ADVISE US WHETHER THE ADDRESSES APPEARING ON INDIVIDUAL APPLICATIONS

SUBMITTED THROUGH YOU HAVE NOT SINCE BEEN CHANGED AND TO FURNISH US WITH ADDRESSES FOR COMMUNICATION FOR THOSE APPLICATIONS IN WHICH THE APPLICANT'S ADDRESSES HAVE NOT BEEN GIVEN; HAVE BEEN CHANGED; OR ARE INSUFFICIENT. (D) BESIDES, THERE SEEM TO BE QUITE A NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS MADE BY OR ON BEHALF OF PERSONS OF CYPRIOT GREEK ORIGIN. IN ORDER THAT THESE PEOPLE MAY BE CONSIDERED AS "ALIENS" IN AS FAR AS PROPERTY OWNERSHIP IS

CONCERNED, IT IS NECESSARY THAT THEY SHOULD PROVE THAT THEY HAD ACQUIRED OR BOUGHT SUCH PROPERTY AS "ALIENS" UPON THE WRITTEN APPROVAL OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS. UNLESS THIS IS ESTABLISHED BY PROPER DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE THEIR APPLICATIONS CANNOT BE CONSIDERED. UNQUOTE.

3. EMBOFF DISCUSSED LETTER AND TURKISH POLICY ON MOVEABLE PROPERTY WITH ISMAIL KARAGOZLU, MINDEF OFFICIAL HANDLING CLAIMS, ON JUNE 20. KARAGOZLU STATED HE HAS

BEEN ORDERED BY "COMMANDING GENERAL " TO FACILITATE RETURN OF PROPERTY BELONGING TO THIRD COUNTRY NATIONALS. INDIVIDUALS OWNING HOMES, AND POSSESSING DOCUMENTARY PROOF OF THIS, WILL BE PERMITTED TO REMOVE POSSESSIONS. PEOPLE LEASING APARTMENTS OR HOMES WILL BE REQUIRED TO PROVE OWNERSHIP OF MOVEABLE PROPERTY LOCATED THEREIN. NEW POLICY SPECIFICALLY APPLIES TO FAMAGUSTA NEW CITY (VAROSHA). KARAGOZLU URGED THAT PROPERTY BE REMOVED EXPEDITIOUSLY SINCE "NO ONE KNOWS WHAT WILL HAPPEN IN ONE MONTH".

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4. KARAGOZLU STATED THAT ACCESS TO PROPERTY IN VAROSHA WOULD FIRST BE GRANTED TO THOSE FOREIGNERS "WITH NO GREEK CONNECTION". FOREIGN NATIONALS OF GREEK CYPRIOT ORIGIN, OR MARRIED TO GREEK CYPRIOTS, WILL REQUIRE APPROVAL OF DENKTASH'S CABINET. APPROVAL WILL BE ON CASE BY CASE BASIS.

5. HOWEVER, KARAGOZLU STATED THAT NO APPLICATION WOULD

BE SUBMITTED TO COUNCIL OF MINISTERS UNTIL "FILE COMPLETE". REFERRING TO LETTER PARA 2 ABOVE, KARAGOZLU STATED FOREIGN NATIONAL OWNERS WOULD NOT BE PERMITTED REMOVE PROPERTY UNTIL THEY PAID CY 5 FEE AND SUBMITTED FORMAL APPLICATION.

6. EMBOFF POINTED OUT THAT IN MANY CASES PROOF OF OWNERSHIP WAS LOCATED IN HOUSE OR IN BANK VAULT IN TURKISH ZONE TO NEITHER OF WHICH MANY OF OUR CITIZENS HAD ACCESS. KARAGOZLU RESPONDED THAT IF EMBASSY CERTIFIED INDIVIDUAL WAS REGISTERED AS LIVING AT PARTICULAR ADDRESS BEFORE JULY 15, 1974, HE WOULD HAVE PREMISES SEARCHED FOR PROOF OF OWNERSHIP.

7. KARAGOZLU CONCLUDED BY STATING TURKISH AUTHORITIES WOULD PERMIT EMBASSY TO REMOVE BELONGINGS OF AMCITS NO LONGER LOCATED IN CYPRUS IF REGISTRATION" COMPLETE" AND IF OWNER PROVIDES EMBASSY WITH LETTER AUTHORIZING REMOVAL.

8. COMMENT. PARA (2) SECTION (D) LIKELY GIVE US MOST TROUBLE. MAJORITY OF CYPRIOT-AMERICANS PURCHASED PROPERTY ON BASIS OF THEIR CYPRIOT ORIGIN, THEREBY AVOIDING RESTRICTIONS ON AMOUNT OF LAND THEY COULD BUY. ACCEPTANCE OF TURKISH ARGUMENT ON THIS ISSUE WOULD, HOWEVER, DIVIDE AMERICAN CITIZENS INTO CLASSES; SOMETHING WE CLEARLY CANNOT DO UNDER U.S. LAW. MOREOVER, WHOLE QUESTION OF FORMAL REGISTRATION AND PAYMENT OF FEES HAS SERIOUS POLITICAL AND LEGAL IMPLICATIONS. INDIVIDUALS COMPLYING WITH REQUIREMENTS OUTLINED IN KARAGOZLU'S LETTER WILL BE LIABLE TO PROSECUTION BY GOC. ANY EMBASSY ROLE IN EFFECTING COMPLIANCE WOULD BE CONSIDERED UNFRIENDLY ACT BY GOVT TO WHICH WE ARE ACCREDITED  
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9. REQUEST DEPARTMENT'S GUIDANCE ON RESPONSE TO LETTER, IF ANY, AND ADVICE TO BE GIVEN AMERICAN CITIZENS.  
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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**Draft Date:** 20 JUN 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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Margaret P. Grafeld  
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**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
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**TAGS:** CPRS, PFOR, CY, TU, US  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006